

this year to strengthen America, to move us forward, to strengthen our economic security, to strengthen our national security. In the new year, we are going to have a lot of challenges. We have a lot to accomplish over the next year. But I am absolutely confident that by keeping our eye on the ball, by staying focused, by working together in a bipartisan way we will be able to continue to cut bureaucratic redtape, to have more efficient Government, to demonstrate more fiscal restraint, to lower Government spending, to support our troops in the field, and to promote policies that will make America safer and more prosperous and healthier and stronger.

I extend my warm wishes to my colleagues for a joyous holiday season. The holidays also are an opportunity to gather with loved ones, to cherish achievements, and to recommit ourselves to the challenges that lay ahead. May we all find strength and renewal in this season, and may we all allow the good will which warms our homes during the holidays to be shared with others—our families, our friends, our neighbors—throughout the year to come.

To our colleagues, to our staff, to the pages who are here tonight, the colleagues who hopefully are at home and in bed now, to the press corps who has been so actively covering us up until about 15 or 20 minutes ago and are probably writing their stories right now, I wish you all happy holidays, and to all a very Merry Christmas.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STATUS QUO OF NOMINATIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that all nominations received by the Senate during the first session of the 109th Congress remain in status quo following the sine die adjournment of the first session under the provisions of rule XXXI, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, with the following exceptions: Calendar No. 436, Brett Cavanaugh, PN203, and a list of nominations from the Armed Services that is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to

consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar, Calendar Nos. 149, 219, 464, 483, 486, 487, 488, 489, and all nominations on the Secretary's desk; provided further the Commerce Committee be discharged further from consideration of the following nominations, and they be considered en bloc: PN1147 and PN1146; I further ask unanimous consent the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624.

To be brigadier general

Col. Donald M. Bradshaw, 0000

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

R. Thomas Weimer, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Emilio T. Gonzalez, of Florida, to be Director of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Vincent J. Ventimiglia, Jr., of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brigadier General Philip M. Breedlove, 0000

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under the title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Gary D. Speer, 0000

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell, 0000

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Andrew B. Davis, 0000

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN785 AIR FORCE nominations (177) beginning JOLENE A. * AINSWORTH, and ending DAVID C. * ZIMMERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 28, 2005.

PN994 AIR FORCE nominations (61) beginning CRAIG L. ADAMS, and ending MATTHEW C. WYATT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 17, 2005.

PN996 AIR FORCE nominations (1235) beginning JAY O. AANRUD, and ending SCOTT C. ZIPPWALD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 17, 2005.

PN1123 AIR FORCE nomination of Martin E. Keillor, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1124 AIR FORCE nominations (3) beginning ROBERT W. DESVERREAUX, and ending CHETAN U. KHAROD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1125 AIR FORCE nomination of Julie S. Miller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1126 AIR FORCE nomination of Kara A. Gormont, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

IN THE ARMY

PN1103-1 ARMY nominations (527) beginning DEIBY ACEVEDO, and ending DAVID R. ZYSK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 13, 2005.

PN1104 ARMY nominations (478) beginning HOLTORF R. ALONSO, and ending RICHARD M. ZYGADLO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 13, 2005.

PN1105 ARMY nominations (17) beginning THOMAS E. AYRES, and ending PETER C. ZOLPER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 13, 2005.

PN1127 ARMY nomination of Cindy R. Jebb, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1128 ARMY nomination of Richard L. Chavez, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1129 ARMY nominations (2) beginning SAMUEL CASCCELLS, and ending SLOBODAN JAZAREVIC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

PN1130 ARMY nominations (5) beginning JOSEPH J. IMPALLARIA, and ending ARTHUR E. LEES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN1131 MARINE CORPS nomination of Michelle A. Rakers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

IN THE NAVY

PN1110 NAVY nominations (42) beginning TONY C. BAKER, and ending JAMES J. VOPELIUS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 13, 2005.

PN1132 NAVY nomination of Lloyd G. Lecain, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 14, 2005.

IN THE COAST GUARD IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 211:

To be lieutenant commander

Connie M. Rooke, 0000

To be lieutenant

Joseph T. Benin, 0000

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.